

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-2, and 6-30 are now pending in the present application, claims 27-30 having been added by this Amendment.

Initially, Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to the remarks submitted with the Amendment submitted March 12, 2003, which was denied entry pursuant to the Advisory Action dated March 24, 2003. Applicants submit that the amendments and remarks submitted March 12, 2003, address all outstanding issues. For brevity, Applicants respectfully incorporate the prior remarks for consideration by the Examiner.

With regard to the correspondence between claimed elements and the embodiments described in the specification, Applicants have further amended claim 6 for clarification. Applicants respectfully submit that, particularly as amended, claim 6 is clearly supported by the specification. In particular, the claimed "header appending means" clearly reads on operations performed by the header appending circuit 111 of Fig. 17. The phrase "generating a first header for each of the M transport packets" is inserted to clarify that the header is different than the header which is already attached before the bit stream is input to the VTR.

Still further, Applicants have added new independent claims 27, 28, which respectively correspond to features of independent claims 6 and 7, except these claims are not written in "means plus function" format and have used element labels that are entirely consistent with the corresponding disclosed embodiment.

Regarding newly-added dependent claims 29 and 30, the phrase "sync block header" reads on the headers 148-152 illustrated in Fig. 21, which are used to indicate whether a corresponding sync block is for transport recording or for fast replay data, identifying which of the consecutive sync blocks, and indicating the partition of the first encoded data of the succeeding packet data, as described at page 58, ll. 16-22.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all outstanding objections/rejections in view of the amendments and the remarks presented above and in the previous Reply dated March 12, 2003.

CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made



Appln. No. 09/541,088

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

6. (Five Times Amended) A digital VTR for magnetically recording and replaying digitally transmitted bit stream in a predetermined recording format, comprising:

division number setting means, responsive to a bit stream input including a predetermined number M of transport packets as a unit, wherein M is an integer, wherein N sync blocks are related to the transport packets such that N is not equal to M, and wherein N is an integer;

said division number setting means setting the division number so that M transport packets are divided into N sync blocks to form the recording format;

header appending means for generating a first header for each of the M transport packets and appending the first header to each of the M transport packets [appending, to data of the bit stream before the division, a header indicating the transport packet]; and

format forming means for forming N consecutive sync blocks from the data after the division of the bit stream.

New claims 27-30 have been added.